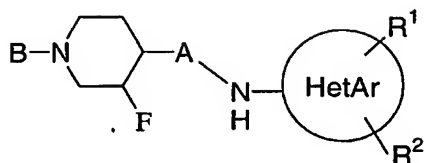


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound having the formula (I):



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 or 2 nitrogen ring atoms, thiazolyl, or thiadiazolyl;

HetAr is optionally substituted with 1 or 2 substituents, each substituent independently is C₁₋₄alkyl, fluoro, chloro, bromo, or iodo;

A is a bond or -C₁₋₂alkyl-; and

B is aryl(CH₂)_{0,3}-O-C(O)-, indanyl(CH₂)_{0,3}-O-C(O)-, aryl(CH₂)_{1,3}-C(O)-, aryl-cyclopropyl-C(O)-, aryl(CH₂)_{1,3}-NH-C(O)-, wherein any of the aryl is optionally substituted by 1-5 substituents, each substituent independently is C₁₋₄alkyl, fluoro, or chloro.

2. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 nitrogen ring atom.

3. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 2 nitrogen ring atoms.

4. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
HetAr is thiazolyl.
- 5 5. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
HetAr is thiadiazolyl.
- 10 6. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
HetAr is 1,2,4 thiadiazolyl.
- 15 7. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
A is a bond.
- 20 8. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
A is methylene.
9. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
A is $-C_2$ alkyl-.
- 25 10. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein
B is aryl-cyclopropyl-C(O)-, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in Claim 1.
- 30 11. The compound according to Claim 10, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein said aryl is phenyl, optionally substituted as defined in Claim 1.

12. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

B is aryl(CH₂)₀₋₃-O-C(O)-, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in Claim 1.

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13. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

B is aryl(CH₂)-O-C(O)-, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in Claim 1.

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14. The compound according to Claim 13, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄ alkyl.

15. The compound according to Claim 14, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein said aryl is 4-tolyl.

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16. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 2 nitrogen ring atoms;

20

A is methylene; and

B is aryl(CH₂)-O-C(O)-, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in Claim

1.

17. The compound according to Claim 16, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

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said aryl is optionally substituted with C₁₋₄ alkyl.

18. The compound according to Claim 17, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

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said aryl is 4-tolyl.

19. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 2 nitrogen ring atoms;

A is methylene; and

B is 4-tolyl(CH₂)—O—C(O)—.

20. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is thiadiazolyl;

A is methylene; and

B is aryl(CH₂)—O—C(O)—, wherein said aryl is optionally substituted as defined in Claim

1.

21. The compound according to Claim 1, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

HetAr is 1,2,4-thiadiazolyl;

A is methylene; and

B is 4-tolyl(CH₂)—O—C(O)—.

22. The compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteraromatic ring containing 2 nitrogen ring atoms;

A is methylene; and

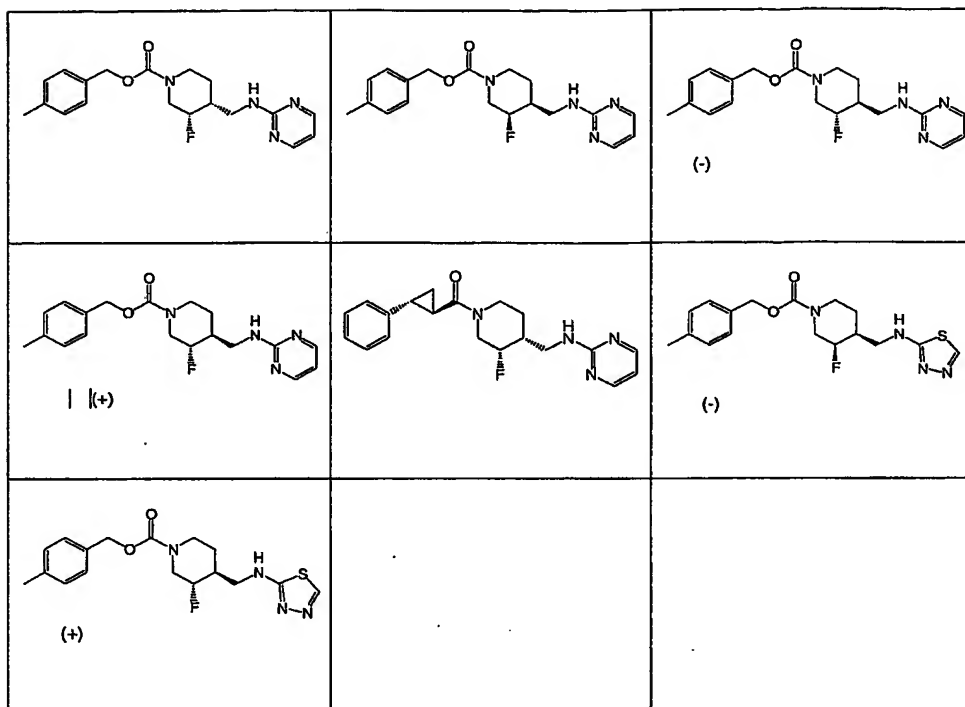
B is aryl-cyclopropyl-C(O)—.

23. The compound according to Claim 1, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, wherein

HetAr is a 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing 2 nitrogen ring atoms; and

B is phenyl-cyclopropyl-C(O)—.

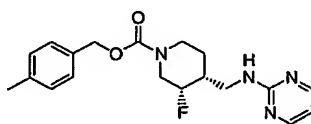
24. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

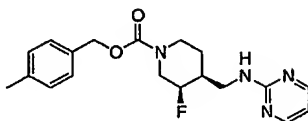
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25. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



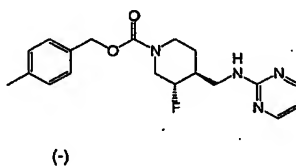
10 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



- 5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

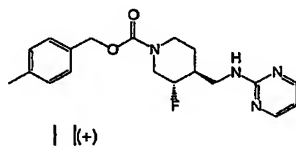
27. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



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- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

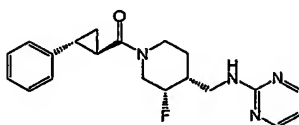
28. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



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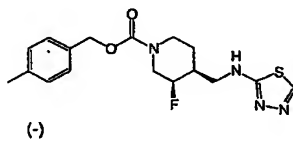
- or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



5 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

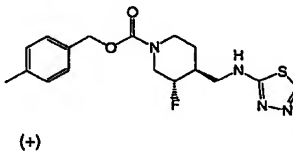
30. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

31. The compound according to Claim 1, wherein said compound is



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or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

32. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an inert carrier and a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

33. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 32, further comprising a second therapeutic agent selected from the group consisting of: (i) non-steroidal anti-inflammatory agents; (ii) COX-2 inhibitors; (iii) bradykinin B1 receptor antagonists; (iv) sodium channel blockers and antagonists; (v) nitric oxide synthase (NOS) inhibitors; (vi) glycine site antagonists; (vii) potassium channel openers; (viii) AMPA/kainate receptor antagonists; (ix) calcium channel antagonists; (x) GABA-A receptor modulators (e.g., a GABA-A receptor agonist); (xi) matrix metalloprotease (MMP) inhibitors; (xii) thrombolytic agents; (xiii) opioids such as morphine; (xiv) neutrophil inhibitory factor (NIF); (xv) L-Dopa; (xvi) carbidopa; (xvii) levodopa/carbidopa; (xviii) dopamine agonists such as bromocriptine, pergolide, pramipexole, ropinirole; (xix) anticholinergics; (xx) amantadine; (xxi) carbidopa; (xxii) catechol O-methyltransferase ("COMT") inhibitors such as entacapone and tolcapone; (xxiii) Monoamine oxidase B ("MAO-B") inhibitors; (xiv) opiate agonists or antagonists; (xv) 5HT receptor agonists or antagonists; (xvi) NMDA receptor agonists or antagonists; (xvii) NK1 antagonists; (xviii) selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors ("SSRI") and/or selective serotonin and norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors ("SSNRI"); (xxix) tricyclic antidepressant drugs, (xxx) norepinephrine modulators; (xxxi) lithium; (xxxii) valproate; and (xxxiii) neurontin (gabapentin).

34. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 32 useful for the treatment of pain, migraine, schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, cluster headache, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, or epilepsy.

35. The pharmaceutical composition according to Claim 33 useful for the treatment of pain, migraine, schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, cluster headache, Alzheimer's disease, stroke, or epilepsy.

36. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 32 useful for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

37. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 33 useful for the treatment of Parkinson's disease.

38. A method for treating or preventing pain in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5 39. A method for treating or preventing migraine, cluster headache, depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, Alzheimer's disease, or stroke in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

10 40. A method for treating or preventing Parkinson's disease in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15 41. A method for treating or preventing chronic, visceral, inflammatory and neuropathic pain syndromes in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

20 42. A method for treating or preventing pain resulting from, or associated with, traumatic nerve injury, nerve compression or entrapment, postherpetic neuralgia, trigeminal neuralgia, diabetic neuropathy, cancer and chemotherapy, in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25 43. A method for treating or preventing chronic lower back pain in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

30 44. A method for treating or preventing phantom limb pain in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a therapeutically effective amount, or a prophylactically effective amount, of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

35 45. A method for treating or preventing HIV- and HIV treatment-induced neuropathy, chronic pelvic pain, neuroma pain, complex regional pain syndrome, chronic arthritic pain and related neuralgias in a patient in need thereof comprising administering to said patient a